

THE RURAL DELIVERIES

Mail Routes Throughout Country Cut Down Expenses in Postoffice Department.

THE ECONOMY EXPLAINED

System of Delivering Mail by Carriers in Rural Districts Is Great Benefit to Farmers.

(From Our Regular Correspondent.)
WASHINGTON, D. C., May 4.—It is here for the citizen and taxpayer to realize that this country is rich enough to deliver the mail to the door of every man in the Union. It is still more difficult for him to believe the assertion, made by officials of the Postoffice Department, that the more rural delivery routes there are in the country, the cheaper it will be for Uncle Sam. It has frequently been a source of wonder to the citizens of the country districts that it was so easy to secure the establishment of rural delivery routes. The government insists on putting in these routes, in some instances against the will of the patrons. There are some sections in which there are no such routes at present, but they will not be without them. In the course of a year or two every community will be served by the rural carrier, and every farmer will have his mail delivered at his door.

The explanation of the economy of the method which the government is adopting for the delivery of the mail is simple when given, but it is doubtful if the farmers of the rural delivery system thought it would ever save money to the government. The postmasters at all fourth class postoffices in the country receive the total amount of stamps cancelled in the year, up to the first of January, then, sixty per cent. of the cancellation up to \$1,000, and when the latter sum is reached the office is raised to the third class, and the official is paid a salary, based on receipts. When a rural delivery route is established, all the fourth class offices on the route, with the exception of the one at the starting point and the terminal office, are abolished. This has the effect of greatly increasing the cancellation at the initial and terminal offices, as the letters mailed on the route are cancelled at those offices. The result is that the two postmasters receive all the cancellation up to \$200, and after that they only get a percentage, while the rest goes into the United States treasury. In a great many instances the increase in cancellation alone results in putting the office in the third class, and the salary paid the contractor is saved to the government and may be applied to the payment of the cost of the free route.

LARGE APPROPRIATION BY CONGRESS.
Congress appropriated this year the sum of thirteen and a half million dollars for the maintenance of rural free delivery. It is estimated that the total cost of the system will be about thirty-five millions, and that the increased income from stamp cancellations will amount to fifty millions, approximately.

The salaries of rural carriers was increased to \$60 a month at the recent session of Congress, but the carriers are not allowed to solicit business or receive orders for any part of the free delivery, and, quoting from the postoffice appropriation bill, "shall not during their hours of employment, carry any merchandise for hire; provided, that said carriers may carry merchandise for hire for and upon the request of patrons residing upon their respective routes, whenever the same shall not interfere with the proper discharge of their official duties, and under such regulations as the Postmaster-General may prescribe." The last estate of the carriers is much better than the former, for the reason that very few of them ever made as much as ten dollars a month from business solicited for another. The present salaries of the carriers, from acting as agents for newspapers, or publications of any character.

The star route carrier is doomed. It will not be many years before the delivery of mail by contract carriers will be entirely a thing of the past, and instead of the farmer getting his papers and letters from the local postoffice, where it is left by the carrier who get the contract to deliver it after competition with other bidders, everybody will get his mail at his door, or as nearly at his door as the route of the carrier runs. The effects of the introduction of the rural delivery system are manifold, not the least of which is the increase in the amount of mail matter. Mail communication is made so much easier that more letters are written daily; daily papers may be received by subscribers in remote districts on the day of publication, and the subscription lists of such publications show a consequent increase. It is not possible to estimate the influence which will be exerted by this increasing to such an enormous extent the amount of reading matter in the hands of the masses of the people.

EFFECTS BUSINESS CONDITIONS.
The establishment of the free delivery systems in the country districts also has had the effect of greatly changing business conditions. It is said that it has worked an immense increase in the volume of business of the great mail order houses in the larger cities. Money which heretofore went to the local dealers now goes to the mercantile

Thalhimer's Thalhimers' Thalhimers' Newest in Women's Furnishings.

Do Not Overlook Our Specials.

New Black Spunglass Petticoats, tucked flounce, finished with hemstitched tucked ruffle, for.....	\$1.98	flounce, finished with tucked ruffle, silk un-derlay, for.....	\$5.00
New McGee Fitted Yoke Petticoats, black satin, bell shaped, attached bands, finished with narrow ruffle, for.....	\$2.25	Colored Silk Petticoats, all newest shades, an elegant assortment, for \$3.95 up to.....	\$15.00
Mohair Petticoats, with McGee fitted yokes, gray, black and champagne shades, accordion plaited flounce, velvet on back, regular price \$7.50, for.....	\$4.50	New Straight Front, dip hip, batiste corsets, for summer wear, T. & G., W. B. and American Lady, upwards, from.....	75c
New Black Silk Petticoats, deep accordion plaited		Broken line of J. B. Warners, R. & G. and P. N. Lavida, all whalebone filled, imported coutil, odd sizes, worth double, at 49c, 50c, 60c, and.....	75c
White Goods For Graduating and Summer Dresses.			
French Balade, 40 inches.....	20c	Wash Organdie, 45 inches.....	50c
Organdie, 32 inches.....	12 1/2c	Dotted Swiss, new dots, 32 inches.....	50c
Persian Lawn, 32 inches.....	15c	Chiffon Organdie, 68 inches.....	40c

houses in the cities, and the carrier delivers the articles purchased. Buying it made easier than it was when the goods were purchased at the cross roads store. The economic phase of the subject, the taking of so much money entirely out of the community, instead of spending it with the local merchant, is about that which the country merchant paid the wholesale dealer. The consumer saves the profit made by the merchant in the old days. And the merchant? Well, he will have to try to run along with smaller sales or go into some other business. He is catching it all around. In many instances the postoffice which he kept is abolished, which, in itself is a loss of income, and in addition thereto, the farmers who used to go to the postoffice once or twice a week for mail now have not that excuse, and many purchases which they made because they were at the store are never made. He will save the money he spent heretofore for things he did not really need.

GREAT BENEFIT TO FARMER.
Looked at from every side, the rural delivery system appears the most beneficial to the farmer of anything the government has undertaken. A great deal of demagogic talk is indulged concerning the inducement which the government practices towards the farmer, but everybody knows that the man who tills the soil gets very little legislation. Mr. Roosevelt probably does not approve of the rural delivery system, for his dislike of the farmers of the country is well known. He having said in a speech in the Wool Exchange, New York, on the 28th of October, 1898, that Mr. Bryan and his followers have appealed to the basest set in the land, the farmers, "in addition to having taken occasion in one or two of his published works to express his aversion to the people of the agricultural districts. He has never said, or implied, that he is opposed to the farmers having their mail delivered, but it is generally believed that he is strenuously opposed to the entire system.

But the system is here to stay and to develop far beyond what it is at present. Telephone special delivery is already being proposed, and it is extremely probable that the day is not far distant when the farmer who has a telephone will be called up and central will read him the contents of a letter, written him by a far away correspondent, and put into the local delivery stamp to the local telephone exchange to be read to the still distant correspondent to whom addressed.

FACTIONS UNITE IN STRONG PARKER CLUB

(Continued From First Page.)

officers and they reported the following, which were unanimously chosen: President—Hon. Charles V. Meredith. Vice-presidents—Clay Ward, Robert Whitte, Jr.; Lee Ward, Coleman Wortham; Henry Ward, Barton R. Grimes; George Ward, Mark Gunst; Madison Ward, E. C. Folkes; Jefferson Ward, W. H. Adams; Marshall Ward, John A. Curtis. Secretary—Horne A. Hawkins. Treasurer—Thomas R. Hicks. Sergeant-at-Arms—John F. Pettis.

Mr. Meredith Accepts.
A committee was named to wait upon Mr. Meredith, to find out if he would accept the presidency, and he replied that he would do so, much to the gratification of the club. He was detained by an important engagement and therefore prevented from personally stating his devotion to the conduct of the Parker campaign here.

Marshall Ward, John R. Grimes; Henry Ward, Barton R. Grimes; George Ward, Mark Gunst; Madison Ward, E. C. Folkes; Jefferson Ward, W. H. Adams; Marshall Ward, John A. Curtis. Secretary—Horne A. Hawkins. Treasurer—Thomas R. Hicks. Sergeant-at-Arms—John F. Pettis.

Subcommittee Meets.

Made Arrangements for Republican National Convention.

(By Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, May 4.—The subcommittee of the Republican National Committee appointed to make arrangements for the coming national convention met here to-day at the Arlington

TWO MORE MEN IN SECRET SERVICE

Officers Wiltshire and McMahon Promoted to the Detective Force.

At the regular monthly meeting of the Police Board last night, the detective force, under Captain Tomlinson, was enlarged by the promotion of Officers John L. Wiltshire, of the First District, and Thomas McMahon, of the Second District.

Three men were selected from a list of men probably equally as good in point of service in the secret field, but as only two could be detailed to the work, the two named were the fortunate ones.

Both McMahon and Wiltshire have figured in many big cases. Their bravery and shrewdness is not questioned, and it is conceded that the secret service will be benefited by the addition.

The secret service department now consists of Captain Tomlinson and Sergeants Hall, Gibson, Wren, McMahon and Wiltshire.

PANAMA CONVENTION.

The Body in Session at Tampa, Florida.

(By Associated Press.)

TAMPA, FLA., May 4.—The Southern Interstate Panama Canal Convention was opened here to-day with a large attendance from commercial bodies throughout the South. Addresses of welcome were made by Governor W. S. Jennings, Congressman S. M. Sparkman and Mayor James McKay.

After the addresses of welcome and response, the convention adjourned until to-morrow morning.

New Orleans was represented by the largest delegation outside of Florida. Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina and Tennessee are also largely represented, and a number of delegates are expected to arrive to-morrow.

The afternoon was given over to the formal parade, the second annual event of the kind ever held here, named as judges in the events. The city has thousands of visitors and is elaborately decorated for the occasion.

Bryan Controlled County Convention.

(By Associated Press.)

LINCOLN, NEB., May 4.—W. J. Bryan controlled the Democratic convention in his home county to-day, and a platform reaffirming the Kansas City platform was adopted. No names for the presidential nomination were mentioned, the convention voting to adopt the unit rule, and agreeing to the acts Bryan thinks best in the national convention.

Hearst Scores Victory in Iowa.

(By Associated Press.)

DES MOINES, IA., May 4.—William Randolph Hearst scored a victory in the district caucus preliminary to the State Democratic Convention to-day, by securing seven districts as against four for the anti-Hearst faction.

The resolutions committee are radical and it is not unlikely the resolutions will carry a decided Hearst feature.

ADJUSTER EXPECTED.

Loss on Pocahontas Cannot be Estimated Until She Is Raised.

Nothing has yet been done in the matter of raising the sunken steamer Pocahontas, nor of estimating the loss by its submergence. A representative of the company stated yesterday that an expert marine insurance adjuster would be here to-day or to-morrow, and it is expected that he will determine upon the procedure. The damage to the vessel has not yet been and cannot be estimated until she is raised or raised by the company. The hull might be damaged or broken in attempting to raise her, and so the company will have to work to the insurance companies, the boat being insured for \$50,000. It will cost a considerable sum to raise her.

The Old Point Comfort, which is running on the schedule of the Pocahontas, requires about one hour longer than her predecessor, but is giving very satisfactory service.

DR. HOPKINS DIES IN PHILADELPHIA

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

PHILADELPHIA, PA., May 4.—Dr. Barton Williams Hopkins, well known in Philadelphia society, died of cholera morbus. He was taken suddenly ill on Monday while going South to John Alexander, a Remondier on a tour through the Southern States, and was brought home yesterday. Dr. Hopkins was the author of many valuable medical articles, and his book on "Fractures" is widely known. He was member of the Biltmore Country (N. Y.) Yacht, Corinthian Yacht and a number of medical clubs.

PASSED BOGUS CHECK HERE; NOW UNDER ARREST

(By Associated Press.)

BALTIMORE, MD., May 4.—Aquilla Dunaway, who was arrested in Philadelphia a few days ago, charged with passing forged checks on merchants here, was brought here to-night and confessed that he had led a criminal career. He said that among the forged checks lately passed by him was one for \$20 on D. R. Calhoun, of Richmond, Va.

WOULD NOT REPEAL IRISH CRIMES ACT

(By Associated Press.)

LONDON, May 4.—The House of Commons to-night, by a vote of 197 to 121, rejected a resolution in favor of the repeal of the Irish crimes act, recently passed by the House of Commons.

George Wyndham, chief secretary for Ireland, in opposing the move, confessed that nothing could justify the anticipated loss of the repeal of the act in Ireland, but he said that the repeal of the crimes act could only do harm by reviving the angry passions now laid at rest.

John Redmond, leader of the Irish party, expressed his extreme dissatisfaction with Secretary Wyndham's statement, which, he declared, would lead the Irish people if they had the means, into open rebellion.

A DEADLY BATTLE WITH KNIFE AND PISTOL

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

WILKESBORO, N. C., May 4.—As a result, it is understood, of an old feud, Hillary Key is dead, killed by Freddie Johnson, in a furious combat with knives, and Johnson himself lies at the point of death, suffering from ghastly wounds that may result fatally.

It is reported that Johnson went over to Key's field to hunt for some stray sheep. While there he engaged in an altercation with George Key and fired at him twice, but failed to hit him. Hillary Key, George's brother, then took up the quarrel, and Johnson attacked him with a knife. Hillary's blade instantly flashed out, but Johnson was too quick for him, stabbing and cutting his life out in short order, though in doing so he himself received wounds that may result fatally.

The auxiliary connected with the Y. M. C. A., of the Passenger and Power Co., of which was to have met this week, has decided to postpone the meeting until May 19.

Burnett's Extract of Vanilla is the leader all the world over. Use no other. "Adv."

THE COMING CONVENTION

Hall for the Big Democratic Body Has Not Been Selected Finally.

PROBLEMS TO BE SOLVED

Slate Not Yet Made Known, if Made Up—The Method of Choosing Delegates.

One month from next Monday the State Democratic convention will be called to order in this city. State Chairman Ellyson and City Chairman Doherty are authorized to select the hall. A member of the hotel committee stated yesterday that they were doing nothing at this time, but leaving the matter of selecting the hall to be determined by the two gentlemen named. The impression prevails that if possible the convention should be held in the city limits. There is doubt in the minds of many as to whether the Academy of Music would comfortably seat as many as fifteen hundred people. On the other hand, it is regarded as unlikely that so many will attend the convention, but it cannot be taken for granted that this number will not be here. The matter of the hall is yet uncertain. It may be the Academy or armory, or it may be the amphitheatre.

One of the features of the convention will be the action on the primary plan. A number of amendments to the plan will be submitted to the full committee by the subcommittee named for the purpose, and the full committee will report to the convention. The light over the primary is likely to be carried to the floor of the convention. One of the suggested amendments to the plan is that providing for "majority" nominations. This, if adopted, might necessitate a second primary, but such a plan is working satisfactorily in other Southern States. Another matter that is certainly going to be the subject of discussion is that of removing the seat of candidacy from the aspirants for honors and office, at the hands of the party. The viva voce feature is foredoomed.

The method of choosing delegates to the convention has been left to the city and county committees. They may hold primaries, if preferred, or choose their delegates in conventions or mass meetings or ward meetings. There being no provision for the expansion of primaries in the counties, it is likely that mass meetings of county conventions will be the method generally selected.

FOUR BANDITS GARROTED AT SANTIAGO, CUBA

(By Associated Press.)

SANTIAGO, CUBA, May 4.—Four bandits convicted of murder were garroted to-day in the provincial jail. It was the first legal execution since the Spanish regime. Two executioners arrived here from Havana yesterday with the garrote, were almost mobbed while on their way to the jail.

President Palma was petitioned to commute the sentences, but he declined to interfere.

INJURIES INFLICTED BY HIGHWAYMEN CAUSED DEATH

(By Associated Press.)

OMAHA, NEB., May 4.—Rev. Father Edward Geary, assistant pastor of Holy Family Church, died to-day of wounds inflicted by highwaymen Monday night. The assault occurred in front of the church and was committed by two men, Father Geary being the victim.

A man giving the name of James Crandall is under arrest in connection with the assault.

POLICE COMMISSIONERS ASKED TO RESIGN

(By Associated Press.)

CHICAGO, May 4.—A dispatch to the Tribune from New Orleans says:

Mayor Capdeville has asked the members of the Board of Police Commissioners of New Orleans to resign as a result of charges by Commissioner John A. Woodville that the commissioners are "grafters," and are responsible for gambling, houses of prostitution, and other vices.

The Mayor's action produced a sensation. Riotous scenes attended the meeting of the board, and on adjournment, Woodville was cheered and carried about by a crowd of his supporters.

Give a Silver Tea.

A silver tea will be given this evening at 8 o'clock, at the residence of Mrs. F. J. Duke, No. 1033 Grove Avenue.

The entertainment is to be under the auspices of the Women's Guild of the Calvary Baptist Church.

First and Last.

We are told that Virginia has the distinction of having as a citizen the only living Revolutionary soldier.

This lady is Mrs. Rebecca Mayo, who lives at Newbern. She married Stephen Mayo, a great Revolutionary soldier, who died in 1807, at the age of seventy-seven years.

It is very appropriate, as Virginia commemorates the great anniversary of the battle of the war was fought on her soil, that she should have within her borders the last link of the Revolutionary chain, and the link that connects her with the soldiers of those memorable times.—Fredericksburg Star.

Williams for Speaker—If—

Mr. John Sharp Williams did not give the only valid reason why he should not be deemed eligible for the presidential nomination this year. That reason is the necessity for his election as Speaker of the House if the Democrats carry Congress. With a safe majority, under his leadership, he would have the strongest and most effective House of Representatives since the war, whereas, with any other man in the Speaker's chair, there would be no such body.

Williams is a man of high character and high ability. He is a man of high character and high ability. He is a man of high character and high ability.

The Ideal.

The lawyer who ought to gain his case will for the most part do so. The case will be won by the lawyer who will be reprinted, and the speaker with a message strong enough will find men hanging on his words.—Raleigh Times.

Don't expect to enjoy good health as long as the stomach is weak. That's impossible. Strengthen it with the Bitters and good health is assured. It always cures Poor Appetite, Heartburn, Indigestion, Dyspepsia and Liver Complaints. Give it a trial.

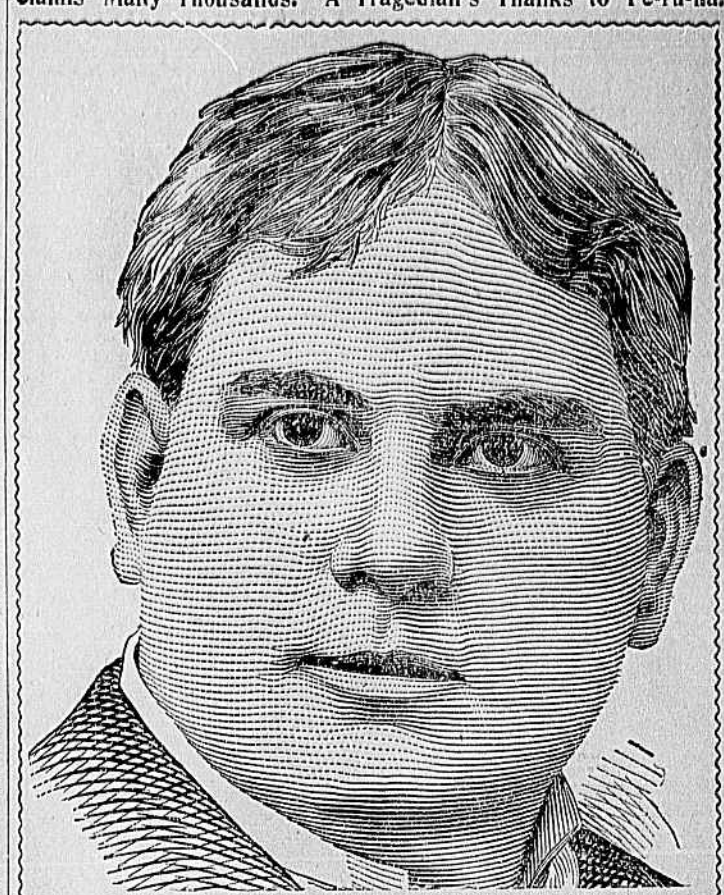
HOSTETTER'S

CELEBRATED

STOMACH BITTERS

SYSTEMIC CATARRH SO LITTLE UNDERSTOOD

Claims Many Thousands. A Tragedian's Thanks to Pe-ru-na.



ROBERT DOWNING, THE FAMOUS TRAGEDIAN.

In speaking of Peru-na, Robert Downing, the famous tragedian, says:

"I find Peru-na a preventative against all sudden summer ills that sweep upon one in changing climate and water. It is the finest traveling companion and safeguard against malarial influences."

"You may notice that persons in poor health always find the heat most intolerable; this I avoid by using Peru-na. I know by the thermometer that the weather is hot, yet I have felt the heat less this summer than ever."

"The cooling action of Peru-na on the mucous membrane makes it invaluable to actors and singers, as it does away

with that tendency to sudden hoarseness so apt to overtake one on emerging from a hot dressing room to a draughty stage. "To sum it up, Peru-na has done me more good than any tonic I have ever taken."—Robert Downing.

Dr. Hartman was the first physician in the United States to accurately describe systemic catarrh. His remedy, Peru-na, the only systemic catarrh remedy yet devised, is now known all over the civilized world. A person having used it once can never be persuaded to be without it when in need of such a remedy.

Write for a copy of Dr. Hartman's latest book entitled "Summer Catarrh." Address Dr. Hartman, Columbus, O.

home to-day at 12 M., and the interment will be in the family burying ground.

George Washington Blick.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

PETERSBURG, VA., May 4.—Mr. George Washington Blick, an old and respected citizen, was found dead in his room on Harrison Street, last evening. Mr. Blick was seen alive at supper time Monday evening, when he was complaining of a severe pain in the stomach. Not making his appearance yesterday, his friends went to his room about 6 o'clock last evening and found him dead. It is thought he died of paralysis. He was seventy-six years of age, and a brother of Mrs. Reuben Bagland, Sr. The funeral will take place this afternoon at 5 o'clock from Market Street Church.

John W. Angell.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

ROANOKE, VA., May 4.—Mr. John W. Angell, a prominent citizen of Boones Mills, Franklin county, died at the hospital to-day from blood-poisoning, aged seventy years. He injured himself in his feet several weeks ago and blood-poison developed.

He is survived by his wife and six children—all grown.

Mrs. Pleasant Parker.

SUFFOLK, VA., May 4.—Mrs. Pleasant Parker, aged eighty years, and for nearly all her life a church member, died to-day at her home near Cypress Chapel. Two daughters and two sons survive her.

DEATHS.

DOHERTY.—Died, at her residence, 204 W. Cary Street, Wednesday afternoon at 4 o'clock Mrs. HONORA L. DOHERTY, wife of the late John E. Doherty. Funeral will be from St. Peter's Cathedral FRIDAY MORNING at 9 o'clock, by request, no flowers.

INGE.—Died, at the residence of her mother, Mrs. Mary V. Inge, at 11:30 A. M., Wednesday morning May 4, 1904, at 510 o'clock, MAGGIE BEALL INGE, beloved wife of S. V. Inge, aged twenty-two years and four months. She leaves besides her husband, her mother, three brothers, four sisters and two children to mourn.

Funeral from Christ Church FRIDAY EVENING at 3:30 o'clock.

Sprains and Bruises Quickly Cured.

When you get a sprain or bruise, valuable time may be saved by promptly applying Chamberlain's Pain Balm to the injured parts. It will cure a sprain in one-third the time required by the usual treatment. Last winter Herb W. Edwards, of Des Moines, Iowa, got a fall on an icy walk, spraining his wrist and bruising his knees. "The next day," he says, "they were so sore and stiff, I tried I would have to stay in bed, but I rubbed the parts well with Chamberlain's Pain Balm and after a few applications all soreness had disappeared. I feel that this bottle of Pain Balm saved me several days' time, to say nothing of the suffering." For sale by all druggists.

SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION, NASHVILLE, TENN., MAY 12-16, 1904.

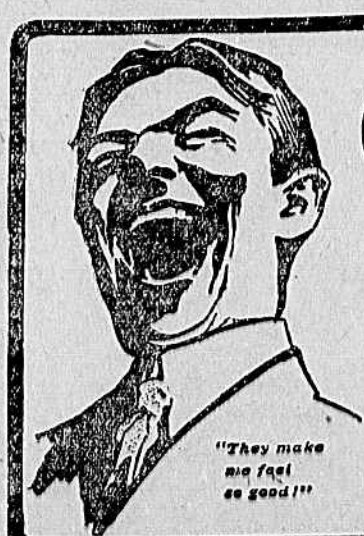
SOUTHERN RAILWAY.

For the above occasion the Southern Railway announces special rate of one fare plus twenty-five cents for the round trip from all points to Nashville and return. Tickets on sale May 10th, 11th and 12th, with return limit ten days from date of sale, with privilege of extending the limit to June 10th on deposit of ticket with joint agent and payment of fifty cents. The Southern offers two attractions, through Asheville, "Land of the live routes," the Sky-Line, through Atlanta and Chattanooga. Double daily limited trains each direction over either of these routes, with Pullmans and day coaches.

C. W. WESTBURY, District Passenger Agent.

The State Bank of Virginia can furnish you with checks that will be cashed on presentation, without personal identification in St. Louis when you go to the World's Fair.

NO GUESSING ABOUT TEE-DEE WANT ADS. THEY ALWAYS PAY.



O.C. Candy Cathartic
THEY WORK WHILE YOU SLEEP
ANNUAL SALE—TEN MILLION BOXES
Greatest in the World

A MILLION GOOD FELLOWS have learned that "a O.C. Candy Cathartic at night makes you feel all right in the morning." And they have told other good fellows the same. A MONTHLY nature punishes every excess and over-eating, over-indulgence in sleeping result in stomach, liver, kidney and bowel troubles that are liable to become very serious. It is very unwise to wait until the digestion is stopped, the bowels constipated, the tongue coated, the breath fetid, and the nerves tortured with a racking sick headache. To prevent this, take a O.C. Candy Cathartic just before going to bed, and wake up in the morning feeling fine and ready for work or play. Best for the bowels, morning laxative, 10c, 25c, 50c. Never sold in bulk. The genuine tablet stamped O.C. Guaranteed to cure or your money back. Sample and booklet free. Address STERLING REMEDY CO., Chicago or New York, Ill.